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The Rural District Council of Hexham

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

J. J. HURLEY, M.B., B.Ch.

And Joint Report of the Surveyor

and Chief Sanitary Inspector,

FOR THE YEAR 1953.

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FOR THE YEAR 1953.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council of Hexham :—

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

As Acting Medical Officer of Health I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1953.

During the year, 294 live births and 241 deaths, including 8 children under one year of age, belonging to the district have occurred. These figures give a live birth rate of 14.67 per 1,000 of the estimated population, a general death rate of 12.01 per 1,000 of the estimated population and an infant mortality rate of 27.21 per 1,000 live births. Compared with last year these figures show a slight decrease all round.

During the year 375 cases of notifiable diseases were notified, compared with 286 for last year, outstanding among them were 172 cases of measles, 144 cases of whooping cough and 3 cases of poliomyelitis with 1 death. 19 new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with 24 for last year.

Work has continued on privy conversion schemes, and the Council's scavenging service continued as for last year with further extensions. With regard to sanitary circumstances, general improvement continued throughout the year.

In accordance with Circular 1/54 details of qualifications and duties of the Council's Senior Public Health Officers are appended.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
J. J. HURLEY,
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Acting Medical Officer of Health :
Dr. J. J. HURLEY, M.B., B.CH.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :
C. BARRAS, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Senior Additional Sanitary Inspector :
J. HEWITT, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :
G. B. HOGG, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

All the Council's Sanitary Inspectors possess the Meat and Foods Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

The Council's Public Health and Housing Committees deal with matters concerning Public Health.

DUTIES OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1. HOUSING.

1. General Inspection, abatement of overcrowding, repair and improvement, closure, demolition, clearance.
2. Improvement Grants.
3. Licensing.

2. WATER SUPPLIES.

1. **Council Supplies.** Sampling and chlorination.
2. **Private Suppliess.** Sampling, investigation of pollution, etc.

3. COUNCIL HOUSE MANAGEMENT.

1. Maintenance.
2. Allocation of tenants.

4. FOOD.

1. Inspection of premises for compliance with Food and Drugs Act.
2. Registration of premises.
3. Examination of meat and foods as to fitness for human consumption.
4. Sampling of milk and ice cream, etc.

5. SCAVENGING.

1. Management of transport, collection and disposal of refuse.

6. PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

1. Preparation of Drawings and specifications for schemes.
2. Supervision of work.

7. DRAINAGE.

1. Inspection and testing of new and existing drainage.
2. Advisory work on layout of new drainage systems.

8. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1. Investigation and disinfection.

9. GENERAL.

Carrying out of all statutory duties in connection with the following :—Nuisances, Factories, Rodent Control, Moveable Dwellings, Disinfestation, Inns, Public Houses, etc., Keeping of Animals, Shops and Bakehouses.

PART I.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	196,030
Estimated Population, 1953	20,050

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Live Births—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	157	128	285
Illegitimate	7	2	9
Still Births—			
Legitimate	1	4	
Illegitimate	—	—	

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	14.67
Total (Live and Still) Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	14.91

DEATHS.

Deaths from puerperal causes—	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births	Nil
Death Rates of Infants under one year of age—	
All infants per 1,000 live births	27.21
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	28.07
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	Nil
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms (all ages)	43
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	Nil
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (all causes and all ages)	12.01

The following Table classifies deaths according to their age groups in each Sub-District, and also as to their certification :—

Age Group.	Allendale.				Bywell.				Hexham.				Totals.	
	Certified.		Uncertified.		Certified.		Uncertified.		Certified.		Uncertified.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	1	—	—	6	2
1—2 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—5 ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5—15 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2
15—25 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
25—45 ..	—	2	—	—	4	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	7	3
45—50 ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	7	—
50—55 ..	—	2	—	—	1	2	1	—	3	2	1	—	6	6
55—60 ..	3	1	—	—	3	1	1	—	6	5	—	—	13	7
60—65 ..	1	1	—	1	2	2	1	—	2	2	—	1	6	7
65—70 ..	3	4	—	1	2	1	—	—	8	8	—	1	13	15
70—75 ..	4	5	—	1	8	5	—	—	8	6	1	—	21	17
75—80 ..	5	7	1	1	3	4	—	—	11	11	—	—	20	23
80—85 ..	2	5	—	—	4	3	—	—	10	6	—	—	16	14
85—90 ..	4	4	—	—	3	5	—	—	3	4	—	—	10	13
90—95 ..	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3
95—100 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	25	32	1	4	31	28	3	—	64	48	3	2	127	114
												Total ..	241	

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1953.

	Rate per 1,000 total Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population									Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers.	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Acute Polio-myelitis & Polio-encephalitis	Pneumonia	All causes under 1 year of age	Enteritis & Diarrhoea under 2 years of age
England and Wales..	15.5	0.35	11.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.20	0.16	0.00	0.01	0.55	26.8	1.1
160 County Borough and Great Towns (including London)	17.0	0.43	12.2	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.24	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.59	30.8	1.3
160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1951 Census)	15.7	0.34	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.17	0.00	0.01	0.52	24.3	0.9
London Adm. County ..	17.5	0.38	12.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.64	24.8	1.1
Hexham Rural District ..	14.67	0.25	12.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.20	27.21	3.4

VITAL & MORTALITY STATISTICS.

Year.	Birth Rate per 1.000 living	General Death Rate per 1,000 living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 living
1928	14.7	10.9	55.1
1929	13.2	11.6	50.1
1930	13.2	11.8	63.3
1931	12.7	12.7	94.3
1932	13.5	12.3	53.3
1933	12.3	12.3	26.9
1934	10.6	12.2	67.5
1935	13.9	12.1	52.8
1936	13.2	13.4	66.9
1937	13.2	13.9	60.6
1938	14.1	15.3	68.5
1939	10,7	12.4	79.4
1940	12.2	12.9	56.1
1941	12.0	12.3	42.2
1942	14.4	12.6	21.1
1943	13.7	13.7	37.2
1944	15.4	12.8	44.0
1945	13.2	13.1	31.1
1946	18.1	13.1	46.9
1947	17.4	14.4	34.2
1948	16.0	12.6	18.0
1949	14.3	12.4	23.4
1950	14.8	13.4	29.0
1951	13.86	14.20	28.07
1952	15.32	12.75	54.85
1953	14.67	12.01	27.21

The chief causes of death are as follows :—

Causes of Death.	Allendale		Bywell		Hexham		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	2	—	3	—	—	—	5	—
2. Tuberculosis, other ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	3	—	—	3	2	4	5
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	—	—	1	—	3	—	4	—
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast..	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	—	6	5	3	6	4	11	13
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	6	2	8	4	14	10	28
18. Coronary disease, angina ..	3	6	5	—	11	8	19	14
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	2	2	1	—	4	5
20. Other heart disease	3	7	7	6	10	5	20	18
21. Other Circulatory disease ..	2	2	3	—	3	4	8	6
22. Influenza	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
23. Pneumonia	1	—	—	1	1	1	2	2
24. Bronchitis	1	—	1	1	3	—	5	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	3	—	—	—	1	—	4	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	—	—	1	2	12	5	13	7
33. Motor vehicle accidents ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1
34. All other accidents	—	—	1	—	3	2	4	2
35. Suicide	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	26	36	34	28	67	50	127	114
						Total ..	241	

Infant Mortality during Year ending December 31st, 1953

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

Causes of Death	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pul. Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations ..	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Premature Birth	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Accident	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All causes — Certified.	4	2	—	—	6	—	1	1	—	8
All causes — Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
GRAND TOTALS ..	4	2	—	—	6	—	1	1	—	8

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1953

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District														Total Cases notified in each Sub-District		
	At all Ages	Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over	Age un known	Allendale	Bywell	Hexham
Scarlet Fever	30	—	2	1	3	—	17	4	1	1	—	1	—	—	3	13	14
Whooping Cough ..	144	8	10	14	13	10	77	7	—	—	2	1	—	2	66	21	57
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	172	3	5	17	19	28	61	20	9	7	1	—	—	2	11	62	99
Pneumonia	17	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	1	—	1	4	5	—	4	3	10
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	2	3
Food Poisoning ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	375	11	18	33	37	38	159	31	11	11	7	9	6	4	84	104	187
															375		

TUBERCULOSIS.—New cases and Mortality during 1953 :—

Age periods	New Cases.				Nett Deaths in Hexham Rural District			
	Pulmonary.		Non. Pulm.		Pulmonary.		Non. Pulm.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1
5—15	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	8	4	2	5	5	—	—	1

INFECTIOUS DIESASES, 1929-1953.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria	Measles.	Pneumonia.	Cerebrospinal Fever.	Acute Polio-myelitis.	Acute Polio-encephalitis.	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica.	Dysentery.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Smallpox.	Paratyphoid Fevers.	Enteric or Typhoid	Erysipelas.	Food Poisoning.
1929	18	—	6	—	39	—	1	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	19	—
1930	17	—	10	—	20	1	—	—	—	6	1	6	—	—	3	14	—
1931	29	—	9	—	24	—	—	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	3	8	—
1932	18	—	14	—	29	—	1	—	1	2	1	6	1	—	—	9	—
1933	26	—	1	—	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	4	—
1934	126	—	10	—	19	1	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	1	8	—
1935	72	—	16	—	17	—	1	—	—	3	3	4	—	—	1	13	—
1936	107	—	48	—	26	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	4	—
1937	32	—	4	—	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	6	—
1938	53	—	13	—	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	4	—
1939	62	7	28	7	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	8	—
1940	17	11	16	170	14	8	1	—	—	—	8	11	—	—	1	2	—
1941	11	59	13	91	16	3	—	—	—	1	9	17	—	—	7	7	—
1942	13	1	7	65	11	3	—	—	—	12	8	13	—	—	—	3	—
1943	23	24	4	114	20	1	—	—	—	7	10	18	—	—	—	6	—
1944	29	28	3	32	5	—	—	—	—	—	15	17	—	—	—	5	—
1945	36	18	8	23	8	—	—	—	—	5	—	8	—	—	—	5	—
1946	21	45	6	81	15	1	3	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	2	—
1947	4	33	6	208	8	—	8	—	—	1	—	9	—	—	—	—	—
1948	29	56	1	81	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	1	—	4	—
1949	18	22	—	146	12	—	4	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	6	10
1950	31	99	—	255	26	—	2	—	—	1	—	10	—	—	—	6	1
1951	14	45	—	220	32	3	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
1952	24	71	—	162	18	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	5	1
1953	30	144	—	172	17	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	2

CASES OF MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH DURING 1953.

District.	Measles													Whooping Cough												
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Allenheads ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Allendale ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Carrshield ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haydon Bridge	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	1	—	13	41	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	61
Langley.. ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	3
Ninebanks ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blanchland ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ovingham ..	2	10	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Riding Mill ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	2	5	1	—	3	—	—	—	11
Shotley Bridge..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Stocksfield ..	8	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	5
Wylam	9	—	1	1	2	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acomb ..	18	14	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barrasford ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	—	—	10
Birtley ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colwell ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corbridge ..	4	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	4	5	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	12
Fourstones ..	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gunnerton ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Hallington ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hexhamshire	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	1	—	—	—	11
Humshaugh ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	8
Simonburn ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slaley	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	8
Wall	11	16	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Wark	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whittington ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	77	54	19	9	3	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	172	—	6	5	13	49	20	9	15	17	6	4	—	144

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS. YEAR, 1953.

FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS RETURNED TO R.G.

1st Qrtr.	2nd Qrtr.	3rd Qrtr.	4th Qrtr.	Total.
Nil.	Nil.	2	Nil.	2

OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS	Nil
OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE	Nil
SINGLE CASES :—	
Agent identified	1
Unknown cause	1
Total ..	2

PART II.—HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

(1) HOSPITALS.

There are in the district five hospitals under the management of the Hexham and District Hospital Management Committee. These comprise the Charlotte Straker Hospital and the Bridge End Maternity Hospitals at Corbridge, the Dilston Maternity Hospital, Barrasford Sanatorium and Wooley Sanatorium. These hospitals together with the Hexham General Hospital, the Hexham War Memorial Hospital and the Newcastle group of hospitals are available to cases from the area.

Cases of infectious disease requiring admission to hospital are referred to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Newcastle upon Tyne.

(2) AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The British Red Cross acting as agents for the Northumberland County Council provide an ambulance service which serves the district. Ambulance Stations are situated at Corbridge and at Hexham.

(3) HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Northumberland County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district. Home Helps are available to households where such help is required owing to illness or confinement, and their services are obtained through the office of the West Area Health Sub-Committee, Prospect House, Hexham.

(4) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

The following Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held by the Northumberland County Council in the district :—

Child Welfare Clinics.

Allendale	Dr. Clayburn's Surgery. Second Monday in month, 1-30—4 p.m.
Corbridge	Parish Hall, Princes Street. Alternate Tuesdays : 9-30 a.m.—12 noon. 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m.
Haydon Bridge ..	Church Hall. Alternate Mondays : 9-30 a.m.—12 noon. 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m.
Humshaugh ..	Village Hall. Every fourth Thursday, 1-30—4 p.m.
Newbrough	Women's Institute. Alternate Wednesdays, 1-30—4 p.m.
Riding Mill	Parish Hall. Alternate Thursdays, 1-30—4 p.m.
Stocksfield	Red Cross Hut. Alternate Mondays : 9-30 a.m.—12 noon. 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m.
Wylam	Methodist Church Hall. Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30—4 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Allendale	Dr. Clayburn's Surgery. Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30—4 p.m.
Stocksfield	Red Cross Hut. Every fourth Tuesday, 1-30—4 p.m.

(5) MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICE.

These services are now administered by the Northumberland County Council and in this area are combined. There are nine Nurse Midwives working in the Hexham Rural District.

JOINT REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PART III.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Acomb Parish.

The village of Acomb is supplied by the Council, the quality of the water being satisfactory. The quantity available in dry weather is insufficient but the new water scheme (Hexhamshire—Corbridge—Acomb) is nearing completion and an adequate supply will be available next summer (1954).

To augment the supply during dry periods water was tanked to the reservoir.

Oakwood lies partly in Acomb and partly in Sandhoe parishes. The water supply is privately owned and is inadequate. Oakwood is included in the area of the new scheme for Hexhamshire—Acomb.

The Council gave assistance in the distribution of water to areas which were short during the year.

Allendale Parish.

Allendale Town and Catton are supplied by the Council. The quality of the water is satisfactory and the quantity is sufficient.

The Old Town area is very badly served and the Ministry of Health held a private enquiry in 1949 into a scheme to boost mains water to a service reservoir. Approval of the scheme is being awaited.

The Council also supply Ropehaugh area of Allenheads. The quantity is insufficient and it is proposed to augment the supply from a new source.

Broomhaugh Parish.

The village of Broomhaugh is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the supply is generally sufficient.

Broomley Parish.

Stocksfield and New Ridley are adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Broomley village has a private supply owned by the Northumberland County Council, which is adequate.

Chollerton Parish.

Barrasford village has a private supply which is generally sufficient.

Colwell village is supplied by the Council. There is an ample supply at the springs pumped by hydraulic ram and electric pump to a water tower in the village.

Samples taken during the year showed intermittent pollution, and the supply is permanently chlorinated.

Gunnerton village is supplied by the Council ; more water is required.

Corbridge Parish.

Corbridge is supplied by the Council, but the quantity is inadequate for the needs of the village. The new Hexhamshire—Corbridge water scheme is nearing completion and an adequate supply will be available next summer (1954).

Hallington Parish.

The village of Hallington is served partly by a private piped supply, and partly by wells.

The piped supply is sufficient to serve all the houses in the village.

Haydon Parish.

Haydon Bridge is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the quantity is sufficient for present needs.

Langley (Hill Top) is supplied by a well. There is no proper piped supply for these 8 houses.

Healey Parish.

Healey is served principally by wells.

Hedley Parish.

Hedley-on-the-Hill—The Council supply the village with water from a spring at North Farm which is augmented by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co., by pumping to a reservoir south of the village. The supply is generally sufficient.

Hexham Low Quarter.

Part of this parish is supplied from the Council's supply at Slaley but this area will be supplied from the new Hexhamshire—Corbridge scheme to be completed next summer (1954).

Horsley Parish.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. supply the village and the houses and farms surrounding it.

Humshaugh Parish.

The village of Humshaugh is supplied by the Council. The supply is inadequate during dry seasons and the quality is not always satisfactory. It is proposed to augment the supply from a new source.

Newbrough Parish.

The village of Newbrough is supplied by the Council and the supply is supplemented from Mr. Newall's ram chamber. Further Council House building will necessitate laying more pumping main and providing greater storage, and a scheme is being prepared to cover future demands.

Settlingstones Mines cottages have a private supply which is sufficient and satisfactory.

The Woodbine area is supplied by the Council, but the quantity is insufficient.

Newton Parish.

The village has a private supply, but the quantity is insufficient.

The proposed Whittle Dene to Haydon Bridge Scheme will give this area a satisfactory supply.

Newton Hall Parish.

This is a private supply but the quantity is insufficient.

The proposed Whittle Dene to Haydon Bridge Scheme will give this area a satisfactory supply.

Ovingham Parish.

Is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Ovington Parish.

The villatge is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Riding Parish.

Riding Mill is supplied by Riding Mill Estate Co. and the supply is generally sufficient.

Sandhoe Parish.

The villages of Sandhoe and Anick have private supplies which are insufficient. They are both included in the new Hexhamshire—Acomb scheme.

Oakwood—See Acomb Parish.

Shotley High Quarter.

Blanchland is supplied by the Lord Crewe Trustees and the supply is generally sufficient.

Shotley Low Quarter.

The Snods has a private supply which is generally sufficient.

Simonburn Parish.

Simonburn village has a private supply which is insufficient.

Nunwick Town Head has a private supply which is adequate.

Slaley Parish.

Slaley is supplied by the Council and there have been shortages in dry seasons. Hexham Low Quarter is at present supplied from the Slaley mains but this area will be connected to the new Hexhamshire—Corbridge Scheme to be completed next summer (1954) so more water will be available for Slaley. It will then be seen if the Slaley supply is sufficient.

Wall Parish.

Wall village is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the quantity sufficient for present demands.

Warden Parish.

Hardhaugh has a private supply which is adequate.

Fourstones village has a private supply which is inadequate and the proposal is to extend the new scheme for Newbrough to supply Fourstones.

West Allen Parish.

Ninebanks and Carrshield villages are each partly supplied by private piped supplies.

Great Whittington Parish.

The village is supplied by the Council. The quality is not entirely satisfactory. The quantity is sufficient for present needs. The supply is subject to intermittent pollution and is being chlorinated.

Whittonstall Parish.

The village depends on water pumped by hand from a well. This supply fails in the summer and water is tanked to the village.

A scheme is proposed to supply Whittonstall with water from an extension of the Newlands main (Durham County Water Board).

Wylam Parish.

The area is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

WATER SUPPLIES : FUTURE POSITION.

Hexhamshire—Corbridge—Acomb Scheme.

This scheme will be completed during the 1954 summer. The new source of supply for Corbridge is from springs at Moor Gair.

Allendale (Old Town) Scheme.

The final approval of this scheme has not yet been received.

Barrasford, Gunnerton, Humshaugh, Chollerton.

To purchase raw water in bulk from the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co's. main near Gunnerton, erect a filter house and supply these districts by gravity.

Whittonstall.

A scheme to supply Whittonstall from the Durham County Water Board's main at Newlands will be carried out during the 1954 summer.

Proposal for Whittle Dene to Haydon Bridge.

To pump water from Newcastle and Gateshead Filter Station at Whittle Dene to a reservoir at Newton Hall, to give a gravity supply to Stelling, Newton Hall, Newton, Thornbrough, Corbridge, Sandhoe, Anick, Oakwood, Acomb, Warden, Fourstones, Newbrough, Allerwash, Brokenheugh and Haydon Bridge.

Riding Mill and Broomhaugh.

To supply Riding Mill and Broomhaugh by an extension of the main from Farnley.

Simonburn.

Gaugings are to be taken of all suitable springs in this area.

SUMMARY OF SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLIED TO HOUSES IN HEXHAM R.D.C.

PARISH.	1931 Census	1953	WATER SUPPLY							
			Council.		N/cle. and Gateshead Water Co.		Piped Private supplies.		Springs & Wells.	
	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.
Acomb	929	326	660	245	—	—	216	66	53	15
Allendale	2218	758	1157	406	—	—	476	201	585	151
Aydon	91	22	—	—	—	—	79	21	12	1
Aydon Castle	14	3	—	—	—	—	7	2	7	1
Bearle	47	7	—	—	—	—	47	7	—	—
Bingfield...	64	25	12	4	—	—	46	19	6	2
Blackearts & Ryehill ...	11	2	—	—	—	—	11	2	—	—
Broomhaugh	230	84	198	76	—	—	28	7	4	1
Broomley	1741	625	—	—	1575	572	152	47	14	6
Bywell	161	36	—	—	—	—	161	36	—	—
Chollerton	1192	288	373	95	—	—	595	139	224	54
Clarewood	66	21	—	—	—	—	48	16	18	5
Cocklaw	143	35	—	—	—	—	117	27	26	8
Corbridge	2050	790	1743	690	—	—	220	72	87	28
Dilston	223	62	35	9	—	—	177	50	11	3
Dukeshagg	6	1	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—
Espershields	124	34	—	—	—	—	112	30	12	4
Fallowfield	28	9	—	—	—	—	20	7	8	2
Hallington	69	21	—	—	—	—	33	10	36	11
Halton	21	7	—	—	—	—	10	4	11	3
Haughton	85	23	—	—	—	—	67	17	18	6
Haydon	2050	681	1338	469	—	—	520	153	192	59
Healey	103	23	—	—	—	—	50	11	53	12
Hedley	343	56	243	40	—	—	94	16	6	—
Hexham High Qr. ...	118	39	—	—	—	—	88	29	30	10
Hexham Low Qr. ...	328	91	154	45	—	—	141	36	33	10
Hexham Middle Qr. ...	197	70	—	—	—	—	169	62	28	8
Hexham West Qr. ...	95	23	3	1	—	—	85	20	7	2
High Fotherley	62	15	—	—	—	—	62	15	—	—
Horsley	322	105	—	—	318	104	—	—	4	1
Humshaugh	394	138	283	108	—	—	107	28	4	2
Nafferton	34	11	—	—	—	—	34	11	—	—
Newbrough	656	175	200	50	—	—	394	110	62	15
Newlands	113	25	—	—	—	—	63	14	50	11
Newton	123	28	—	—	—	—	123	28	—	—
Newton Hall	127	33	—	—	—	—	127	33	—	—
Ovingham	393	223	—	—	389	207	—	14	4	2
Ovington	470	429	—	—	460	184	—	242	10	3
Portgate	83	16	—	—	—	—	80	15	3	1
Riding	398	137	—	—	—	—	398	137	—	—
Sandhoe	355	108	—	—	—	—	332	101	23	7
Shotley High Qr. ...	207	64	—	—	—	—	163	52	44	12
Shotley Low Qr. ...	427	116	—	—	—	—	344	91	83	25
Simonburn	344	83	—	—	—	—	302	72	42	11
Slaley	648	153	516	125	—	—	100	21	32	7
Spittle	6	6	—	—	—	—	6	6	—	—
Stelling	53	12	—	—	—	—	36	8	17	4
Styford	66	17	—	—	—	—	58	15	8	2
Thornbrough	56	14	—	—	—	—	52	13	4	1
Wall	305	118	193	78	—	—	81	30	31	10
Warden	748	225	—	—	—	—	700	212	48	13
Welton	44	11	—	—	—	—	36	9	8	2
West Allen	394	118	—	—	—	—	138	41	256	77
Whittington Great ...	178	54	142	42	—	—	27	9	9	3
Whittington Little ...	8	3	—	—	—	—	8	3	—	—
Whittle	22	5	—	—	22	5	—	—	—	—
Whittonstall	184	41	—	—	—	—	78	16	106	25
Wylam	1279	421	—	—	1273	419	—	—	6	2
TOTALS	21246	7066	7250	2483	4037	1491	7624	2454	2335	638

PRIVATE PIPED SUPPLIES SERVING MORE THAN 10 HOUSES.

PARISH.	No. of houses on supply.	NAME OF SYSTEM.	REMARKS.
Acomb	27	Oakwood*	Insufficient
	12	Riding	Generally sufficient
Blackcarts & Rychill ...	2	Teppermoor*	Generally sufficient
Broomley	25	Broomley Village ...	Sufficient
Bywell...	12	Bywell Hall	Sufficient
Chollerton	17	Tone Hall (Chipchase) ...	Sufficient
	10	Great Swinburne ...	Sufficient
	12	Barrasford Quarry ...	Sufficient
	37	Barrasford Village ...	Sufficient
Corbridge	4	Stagshaw*	Sufficient
Dilston	30	Dilston Hall	Sufficient
Espershields	19	Minster Acres*	Sufficient
Haughton	15	Haughton Castle ...	Sufficient
Hexhamshire High Qr. ...	12	Kings Law*	Distribution poor
Hexhamshire Middle Qr. ...	33	Kings Law*	,,
Humshaugh	19	Plane Trees & Chesters	Sufficient
	1	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
Newbrough	24	Settlingstones	Sufficient
	15	Carr Edge	Sufficient
	23	Butt Bank*	Insufficient
	17	Allerwash	Sufficient
	10	Wharmley	Sufficient
Newton	20	Newton Village	Sufficient
Newton Hall	24	Newton Hall	Sufficient
Riding Mill	100	Riding Estate	Sufficient
Sandhoe	23	Anick	Insufficient
	16	Sandhoe	Insufficient
	7	Oakwood*	Insufficient
	7	Stagshaw*	Sufficient
Shotley High Qr.	40	Blanchland	Sufficient
Shotley Low Qr.	14	Shotley Field	Sufficient
	5	Minsteracres*	Sufficient
Simonburn	21	Simonburn	Insufficient
	15	Nunwick	Sufficient
	3	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
Slaley	11	Trygill	Sufficient
	10	Slaley Hall	Sufficient
Warden	98	Fourstones	Insufficient
	17	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
	16	Warden Hill	Sufficient
	16	Warden Paper Mill ...	Sufficient
	12	High Warden	Sufficient
	9	Butt Bank*	Insufficient

Supplies included above marked * feed houses in more than one parish, and are summarised below :—

	Houses
Oakwood supply feeds 27 houses in Acomb Parish and 7 in Sandhoe Parish	34
Teppermoor supply feeds 2 houses in Blackcarts, 1 in Humshaugh, 3 in Simonburn and 17 in Warden	23
Stagshaw supply feeds 4 houses in Corbridge and 7 in Sandhoe	11
Minsteracres supply feeds 19 houses in Espershields and 5 in Shotley Low Quarter	24
King's Law supply feeds 12 houses in Hexham High Quarter and 33 in Hexham Middle Quarter	45
Butt Bank supply feeds 23 houses in Newbrough and 9 in Warden	32

PRIVATE SUPPLY (not piped) SERVING MORE THAN 10 HOUSES.

Whittonstall. 24 houses in the village are supplied from a pump, and the supply is totally inadequate.

All other private supplies in the district, not referred to above serve less than 10 houses.

SUMMARY OF WATER SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

1.—COUNCIL SUPPLIES.

Supply.	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf't'y		Total Samples taken.
	Bact.	Chemical.	Bact.	Chemical.	Bact.	Chemical.	
Acomb	4	—	4	—	—	—	4
Allendale	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
Bingfield	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Broomhaugh ..	8	—	5	—	3	—	8
Colwell	10	—	10	—	—	—	10
Corbridge	44	—	30	—	14	—	44
Gunnerton	4	—	4	—	—	—	4
Haydon Bridge ..	5	—	5	—	—	—	5
Humshaugh	9	—	9	—	—	—	9
Newbrough	9	—	7	—	2	—	9
Ropehaugh	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Slaley	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
Wall	14	—	12	—	2	—	14
Whittington ..	12	—	8	—	4	—	12
Woodbine	3	—	3	—	—	—	3
	128	—	103	—	25	—	128

Broomhaugh, Corbridge, Newbrough, Wall, Whittington.

Temporary pollution of these supplies occurred after heavy rainfall and chlorination was carried out until samples showed that there was no further contamination.

2.—PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

Supply.	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf't'y		Total Samples taken.
	Bact.	Chemical.	Bact.	Chemical.	Bact.	Chemical.	
Oakwood	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Bywell	2	—	1	—	1	—	2
"Dilston Close," Corbridge	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
North Clarewood Farm	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Chollerton Farm (Colwell overflow) ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cheviot Farm, Hallington ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
"Lauder Grange," Corbridge	2	—	1	—	1	—	2
Dilston, Corbridge ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Channel Well Farm, Hexhamshire ..	5	—	1	—	4	—	5
Langhope Farm ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Halton, Corbridge ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Newton Village ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Low Houses, Stagshaw ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Beaufront Castle ..	3	—	2	—	1	—	3
Barley Lodge, Shotley Bridge ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
St. Mungos Well, Simonburn ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Rectory, Simonburn ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Fourstones	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Teppermoor	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Riding Mill (Riding Hills Supply) ..	4	—	4	—	—	—	4
Riding Mill (Oaklands Supply) ..	6	1	4	—	2	1	7
	37	1	28	—	9	1	38

Bywell.

This source of supply has been discontinued.

Lauder Grange.

The storage reservoir was cleaned out and the supply is now satisfactory.

Channel Well Farm.

This supply is subject to intermittent pollution and the owner has been informed accordingly.

Beaufront Castle.

The contamination was due to the domestic filter requiring cleaning. Subsequent samples have been satisfactory.

Riding Mill (Oaklands Supply).

This contamination was caused by the incoming water disturbing the deposit on the bottom of the reservoir when empty. All samples taken when the water was clear have been satisfactory.

3.—PROPOSED SUPPLIES.

Supply.	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf't'y		Total Samples taken
	Bact.	Chemical.	Bact.	Chemical.	Bact.	Chemical.	
Colt Crag Farm ..	1	1	1	1	—	—	2
Errington Hill Head	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Langhope Farm ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
"Burnt House," Healey	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
Sharpley, Simonburn	2	—	1	—	1	—	2
Lady's Well, Simonburn ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
Springs, Nunwick ..	4	—	2	—	2	—	4
Tynedale Lodge, Whittington ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Moor Gair Springs ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	16	1	8	1	8	—	17

Where unsatisfactory samples have been obtained, the owners have been informed of the results and advised against the use of the supply.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Acomb Parish.

The village of Acomb is adequately sewered and the works consist of settling tanks and bacteria beds with rotary sprinklers.

Oakwood is sewered and the sewerage system also serves Anick (Sandhoe Parish). The works consist of a settling tank and bacteria bed.

Allendale Parish.

Allendale Town and Catton Village (except Wentworth Terrace) are sewered to a works near Catton. The works consist of settling tanks, bacteria beds with rotary sprinklers and land treatment.

Wentworth Terrace is sewered to a small settling tank and bacteria bed.

Allenheads and Ropehaugh—There are no public sewers. A portion of Allenheads village is sewered to a septic tank. Many of the other drains deliver into the River East Allen. A scheme is required.

Broomhaugh and Riding Parishes.

There is an adequate system of sewers and a sewage works (settling tanks and bacteria beds). The whole of the sewage is pumped.

Broomley Parish.

Broomley village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Stocksfield and New Ridley are sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds. This works requires extension.

Chollerton.

Barrasford village is sewered to a works (settling tanks and bacteria beds).

Colwell village—The village is not sewered and a scheme is proposed to lay sewers and extend a small sewage disposal works (Hostel site, recently taken over by the Council) to take the village.

Gunnerton village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Corbridge Parish.

Most of Corbridge is sewered. The drainage from the remainder of the houses either goes into the River Tyne or into cesspools.

There is a small works (tanks and bacteria beds) dealing with the sewage at Farnley, but the bulk of the sewage goes into the River Tyne untreated.

A scheme is required.

Hallington Parish.

The village of Hallington is provided with a sewer leading to a settling tank.

Haydon Parish.

Haydon Bridge is mostly sewered, but Brigwood Bungalows have soakaways on the river bank, and Chesterwood sewage goes into a ditch. The bulk of the sewage goes direct into the South Tyne.

A scheme has been approved by the Ministry of Health, the requisite land purchased, but permission to commence the work has not yet been received.

Langley Hill Head and Sawmill Cottages have no proper sewers or works.

Haughton Parish.

The drainage from Haughton Castle district goes to a works (settling tanks and filters) near the old papermill.

Hedley Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Hexham Low Quarter.

Juniper is sewered to a works (settling tank and bacteria bed).

Horsley Parish.

Horsley village is sewered. A works is provided but this requires renovation.

Humshaugh Parish.

Humshaugh village has an old system of sewers discharging into a stone conduit, thence to the North Tyne.

A scheme is required.

Newbrough Parish.

Newbrough village is sewered and a scheme is proposed for new sewage disposal works to be constructed between Sitgate Lane and Newbrough Burn.

Newton Parish.

Sewers are provided in the village but they discharge into a stream.

Newton Hall Parish.

Sewers are provided in the village, but there is no treatment.

Ovingham Parish.

The village is sewered and there are two separate works.

Ovington Parish.

The village is sewered, but there is no treatment of the sewage which goes into an open runner leading to the River Tyne. A scheme is required.

Riding Parish.

See Broomhaugh Parish.

Sandhoe Parish.

Sandhoe Village—There are drains and a private sewer.

Anick village and Oakwood are sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria bed.

Shotley High Quarter Parish.

Blanchland—There is no piped sewerage system, but the sewage, carried by piped drains and small enclosed conduits, causes no nuisance. There is a constant flow of water through the system.

Shotley Low Quarter Parish.

The Snods—There is no proper sewerage system.

Simonburn Parish.

Simonburn village has no proper sewerage system.

Slaley Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Wall Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Warden Parish.

Hardhaugh Cottages have a sewer which delivers into the South Tyne.

Fourstones village—The new houses and part of the old village are sewered to a septic tank. The rest of the village has no proper sewerage system. A scheme is required.

West Allen Parish.

Carrshield and Ninebanks villages—No proper sewerage systems exist.

Great Whittington Parish.

There are sewers leading to settling tanks.

Whittonstall Parish.

No proper sewerage system.

Wylam Parish.

North and South Wylam are principally served by piped sewers but the sewage is discharged untreated into the River Tyne.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL : WORKS REQUIRED.

Requiring Immediate Attention :

Newbrough
Colwell.
Whittonstall.
Ovington.
Humshaugh.

Requiring Attention when Possible :

Simonburn.
Fourstones.
Haydon Bridge.
Corbridge.
Wylam.
Ropehaugh.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Almost all the houses in the following places have water closets :

Allendale.	Anick.	Broomhaugh.
Corbridge.	Oakwood.	Ovingham.
Riding Mill.	Settlingstones.	Stocksfield.
Wall.	Wylam.	Catton.
Humshaugh.	Newbrough.	

The greater part of the houses in the following places have water closets :—

Acomb	Sandhoe	Juniper
Healey.	Whittington.	Slaley.
Blanchland.	Haydon Bridge.	

In the following places the greater part of the houses have privies or pail closets :—

Allenheads.	Barrasford.	Carrshield.
Colwell.	Fourstones.	Gunnerton.
Hallington.	Hedley.	Horsley.
Newton.	Newton Hall.	Ninebanks.
Ovington.	Simonburn.	

PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

During the year one privy conversion scheme was carried out at Ovingham.

REMOVAL OF DOMESTIC REFUSE.

The Council obtained delivery of two further Refuse Wagons during the year. One vehicle was used to replace an old open wagon used on the Fourstones, Newbrough area and also enabled the Council to scavenge Haydon Bridge by direct labour instead of by contract. The second vehicle enabled the Council to undertake Acomb scavenging on the expiration of the contract and also to extend the Council's scavenging area to include a fortnightly collection in the following villages and groups of houses :—

	Houses.
Brunton Bank, Simonburn Village, Park End, Gunnerton Village, Barrasford Quarry, Barrasford Village, Chollerton, Swinburne Hermitage and Castle, Colwell Village, Hallington Village, Bingfield, Whittington Village, Halton Shields, Halton Castle, Shildon, Aydon, Newton Village and Newton Hall	386

Other areas at present scavenged by direct labour are as follows :—

1. **Weekly Collections.**

Corbridge and Dilston	762
Stockfield	548
Wylam	447
Haydon Bridge	427
Fourstones, Newbrough, Settlingstones	275
Acomb	244
Riding Mill	124
Humshaugh	93

Wall	80
Slaley	73
Sandhoe, Stagshaw	63
Broomhaugh	58
Warden	57
East and West Oakwood, The Riding	46
Hedley	39
Walwick and Lincoln Hill	36
Anick	16

2. **Fortnightly Collections.**

Juniper	52
Blanchland	39
Whittonstall	24
TOTAL	3,889

Collections by Contractors on behalf of the Council.

Weekly Collections.

Allendale and Catton	343
Ovingham	219
Ovington	131
Horsley	90
	783

Total number of houses in district	6,720
Total number of houses scavenged	4,672
Percentage of houses scavenged by direct labour	58%
Percentage of houses scavenged by contract	12%
Percentage of houses scavenged	70%

There is no public service in the following places :—

Allenheads, Healey, Langley, Carrshield and Ninebanks.

As soon as arrangements can be made for use of a suitable tip, the service will be extended to include Allenheads.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

1. **Agricultural Premises**—Treated by A.E.C.

No. of Inspections	Major Infestations	Minor Infestations	Clear
180	39	64	72

2. **Other Premises**—Treated by Council.

Type of Premises	Number of Treatments	Dead Rats Recovered	Dead Mice Recovered
Refuse Tips ..	33	109	—
Sewers & Sewage Works ..	18	11	—
Private Houses ..	446	155	70
	497	275	70

Sewers.

10% Test Baiting of sewers was carried out at :—

Haydon Bridge, Allendale, Acomb, Riding Mill, Stocksfield, Slaley, Catton, Gunnerton, Humshaugh, Colwell, Hallington, Hedley, Corbridge, Wylam.

There were takes at only 5 manholes, indicating that infestation of sewers is very small.

Tips.

There has been marked reduction in the infestation of refuse tips. The number of dead rats recovered after poisoning was considerably less than half the number recovered last year.

Legal proceedings were taken by the Council in one case where nets were not used whilst threshing was in progress.

PART IV.—HOUSING.

HOUSES COMPLETED DURING 1953.

			With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a)	By Local Authority		40	—	40
	Ovingham	28			
	Newbrough.. ..	10			
	Acomb	2			
(b)	By other bodies or persons			15	15
					55

HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

			With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a)	By Local Authority		98	—	98
	Acomb	16			
	Allendale	8			
	Newbrough.. ..	14			
	Corbridge	34			
	Stocksfield	26			
(b)	By other bodies or persons ..		—	29	29
					127

SUMMARY OF POST-WAR BUILDINGS.

		No. of Houses.	No. of persons Houses.
(a)	By Council :—		
	Acomb	46	198
	Allendale	12	61
	Corbridge	48	213
	Fourstones	16	83
	Gunnerton	6	30
	Haydon Bridge	46	223
	Horsley	4	19
	Humshaugh	6	29
	Newbrough	10	42
	Ovingham	46	177
	Slaley	12	46
	Stocksfield	22	95
	Wall	8	36
	Wylam	36	155
		318	1,407
(b)	By private persons	68	
		386	

Housing Act, 1949 (Sec. 20).—Improvement Grants.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been approved 37

PART V.—SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1.—FOOD INSPECTION.

Food.	Surrendered	Seized.	Legal Proceedings.
Beef (Imported)	381 lbs.	—	—
Beef (Home killed)	112 ,,	—	—
Bacon and Ham	21 ,,	—	—
Tinned Meats	57 ,,	—	—
Other tinned foods	57 ,,	—	—

2.—DETAILS OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE DISTRICT.

	Hotels and Inns.	Social Clubs and Public Halls.	School Canteens.	Works Canteens.	Butchers.	General Dealers, Grocers and Confectioners.	Cafes.	Fish & Chip Shops.	Bake-houses.
Ovington, Ovingham, Horsley	6	1	1	—	1	9	—	1	—
Slaley, Hexhamshire, Blanchland, Shotley, Whittonstall	7	1	7	—	3	15	1	—	—
Wall, Humshaugh, Whittington, Bingfield	5	—	4	—	2	5	1	—	
Broomley, Stocksfield, Hedley, Newton	3	—	2	2	4	11	1	—	2
Wylam	6	1	—	—	1	10	—	—	1
Chollerton, Simonburn, Colwell, Barrasford, Gunnerton ..	3	—	2	—	—	6	1	—	—
Corbridge	8	5	—	1	3	13	4	1	3
Newbrough, Fourstones, Warden	3	1	2	—	2	3	—	—	—
Haydon, Langley, Lowgate ..	6	1	3	—	2	13	2	1	1
Allendale, Catton, W. Allen ..	10	—	3	—	2	18	4	1	1
Sandhoe	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acomb	3	—	1	—	—	6	—	1	—
Broomhaugh, Healey, Riding Mill	2	—	2	—	1	5	—	—	—
	64	10	27	3	21	114	14	5	8

Premises registered for sale of Ice-cream	43
Premises registered for manufacture of potted meats.. ..	21
	64
Number of Dairies registered	1
Number of Inspections of Food premises	84

Condemned food other than Fresh Meat , disposed of by Council by burying in refuse tips.

Fresh Meat condemned is returned by retailer to **Slaughterhouse** in Hexham U.D.C.

No inspections have been made of large stocks or consignments of food.

3.—MEAT INSPECTION.

Slaughtering is centralised and takes place at the Abattoir, Hexham. The inspection of meat and other foods exposed for sale is carried out by the Council's Sanitary Inspectors.

4.—MILK.

Samples taken for	Samples taken from retailers.		
	No. taken.	No. satisfactory.	No. unsatisfactory.
Tuberculosis	3	3	—

5.—ICE-CREAM.

Type of Sample.	Number taken	Grading.			
		1	2	3	4
Pre-packed	22	21	1	—	—

PART VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS.

Water Supplies (General)	70
Water Supplies (Sampling)	217
Water Supplies (Chlorination)	146
Housing	63
Drainage	98
Testing of Drains	211
Privy Conversions	80
Nuisances	111
Council Houses (Allocation)	345
Council Houses (Maintenance)	1,102
Infectious Diseases	50
Food Premises	58
Food Inspection	22
Meat Inspection	66
Ice-cream premises	6
Ice-cream sampling	26
Milk sampling	5
Factories	32
Moveable Dwellings	14
Scavenging	43
Sanitary Conveniences at Hotels, etc.	1
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	20
Food Poisoning	1
Rodent Control	5
Disinfestation	27
Building Inspection	1
Petroleum Storage	6
Public Conveniences	1
Provision of water in to houses	19
Miscellaneous	58
	3,004

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

Part I of the Act.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of: Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	M/c line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sec 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	7	3	Nil	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	77	19	Nil	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	50	10	Nil	Nil	3
Total ..		134	32	Nil	Nil	

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c. line No. (8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4					Nil	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	5					Nil	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6					Nil	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7					Nil	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8					Nil	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—							
(*a*) Insufficient ..	9	1	1		1	Nil	9
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	10					Nil	10
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	11					Nil	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12					Nil	12
Total ..	60	1	1		1	Nil	60

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS ETC. EFFECTED DURING THE YEAR.

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT—

Roofs repaired	2
Walls repointed or repaired	2
Eaves, gutters, spouts, wastes	4
Chimneys repaired	2
New windows	15
Ceilings renewed	5
Walls re-plastered	6
Floors repaired	9
Renewal of ranges	28
Hot water system installed	51
Bath installed	56
Bathroom proved	56
Lavatory basin provided	73
New sculleries provided	24
New sinks provided	53
Food Stores provided	7
W.C's. repaired or renewed	2
Privies converted to W.C's.	66
Washing accommodation provided	5
New drainage system provided	31
Drainage system reconstructed	12
Inspection chamber provided	97
Choked drains cleared	3
Septic tank and filters provided	23
Water laid into house	20
New water supply	3
Ashpits abolished	4
Additional W.C's. provided	24
Urinals provided	3

F. Pichon & Sons, Meaux